



Weekly Newsletter

12th November 2021

News from Sleights

On Thursday, the whole school came together, socially distanced, to mark Remembrance Day. After the Last Post was played, the children paused for two minutes to reflect and remember, before some of our Year 6s shared words from 'For the Fallen'. The whole experience was very moving and very special to be part of. Well done, Team Sleights.



In the classrooms, the **Explorers** have been exploring the sense of touch. The children have talked about their favourite textures and described how different ones feel. The children have also enjoyed some outdoor PE activities using some of our new equipment. A trip to the library was also a very popular event this week. What a busy week! Go, Explorers!

Pioneers have loved the great outdoors this week, as they have spent two days in the school forest. The children have enjoyed gathering natural objects to help them create their own leaf people and artwork, as part of their story telling activities. The children also carried out a matching hunt to explore and find beautiful autumn colours, as well as getting stuck into some printing. Great work, Pioneers.

In **Learners**, the children have shared the Bible story of Jonah and the Whale, exploring how forgiveness is shown. The children have also been busy designing, making and evaluating their own space rockets, linked to a newspaper article they are writing about a space visit. To mark Remembrance Day, the children also created fields of poppy paintings and displayed these at home time. This work looked stunning.

The **Adventurers** have enjoyed using story maps this week to help them retell events for their newspaper reports. The children worked hard to combine their own drawings and words to plan their work and structure. The children also worked hard to create their own watercolour poppies, as part of the Remembrance Day reflections.

In **Discoverers**, the children have enjoyed writing a newspaper article about the Spanish Armada. They have captured many key points within the battle, and been able to speak confidently about Sir Francis Drake's sneaky tactics. The children have also worked tirelessly on the Sundry contest across school with some super success!

Finally, the **Leaders** have been engrossed in writing their newspaper reports sharing Tudor knowledge; many sharing the gruesome details of the demise of Henry VIII's wives! This has definitely helped them remember this Tudor knowledge. The Year 6s continue to impress us – well done, Leaders!

Have a great weekend with your families.

Scott Grason headteacher@sleights.n-yorks.sch.uk

Parents Evening – Virtual Meetings or Telephone Conversations

On Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th November, teachers will be holding parents evening appointments for children in Pioneers, Learners, Adventurers, Discoverers and Leaders. Appointments will be available over the telephone or virtually, using Microsoft Teams. To book your appointment, please follow the links below. Once you have made your booking, we will be in touch again to confirm your time.

- **Pioneers booking:** <https://forms.office.com/r/UDgO3rrXmU>
- **Learners booking:** <https://forms.office.com/r/suJMdNphC9>
- **Adventurers booking:** <https://forms.office.com/r/ak52Z0grtB>
- **Discoverers booking:** <https://forms.office.com/r/JKBRJAGXNk>
- **Leaders booking:** <https://forms.office.com/r/LKT9drxfj8>

Sundog Challenge



A huge congratulations to everyone for their brilliant efforts with the Sundog challenge. It was been so exciting to see our children and classes climb the leader board across the week. The challenge closed on Thursday evening and the final results are in!

In total, 1557 schools took part. The Discoverers came a staggering 17th place, with Leaders finishing in 38th. In lower school, the Learners secured an impressive 630th, followed closely by Adventurers in 650th place. It has been so great to see the children's determination all week. Well done to everyone involved. The maths buzz has been brilliant.

More musical opportunities

You will have noticed lots more music at Sleights. We are so proud of our children and are amazed at the amount of music lessons now taking place. Mrs Walker will soon begin a ukulele with the Leaders, adding to the already existing Discoverers' band and the large number of children learning guitar, violin, recorder or piano in individual lessons. In January, Mrs Rowland, our recorder teacher, will also return to lead more groups.

This week, we would also like to share more details about a beginner violin group from the Whitby Music Centre manager, Bob Butterfield:

I'd like to take the opportunity to tell you about our beginner Violin groups at Whitby Music Centre and invite you to sign up for today's exclusive offer for free music lessons. It will be a great opportunity to kick-start a musical journey.

The free lessons (which include free hire of an instrument) will take place at Whitby Music Centre on a Saturday Morning. The group lessons will last for 30 minutes; places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Whitby Music centre is also opening a new choir this Saturday which will run every Saturday morning at 10.15 at Whitby 6th Form. To begin with the choir session will last for half an hour. We are mostly interested in children of primary school age. Attendance to the choir is free. Because of the timings, we have put in place it would be possible for children to attend both if they wished.

If you are interested or have any questions please email Bob.Butterfield@northyorks.gov.uk or william.osborn@northyorks.gov.uk. These group lessons will be free until July 2022 (including instrument hire), after which point normal Music Centre Charges will apply.

I hope you'll be able to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Children in Need – Friday 19th November – NEXT WEEK



Next Friday, we will be raising funds and awareness of Children in Need. Children are invited to come to school in non-uniform. Donations for this excellent charity can be given in advance, via ParentPay. This payment item is open now. Thank you.

Squid Games

Over the last few weeks, we have learnt that a number of our children have been made aware of a programme on Netflix called Squid Games. The programme is advertised in a very child-like manner, but contains many scenes of violence. Characters from the programme compete playing traditional children's games. However, these games are adult themed and the series is full of scenes of death and horror. One particularly violent game is 'Red Light, Green Light'. Please can all families remain vigilant with the programmes the children are watching at home and discourage any play relating to this. The programme is not suitable for children. More details about the programme and shared concerns can be found here: <https://oursaferschools.co.uk/2021/10/08/squid-game/>

Please get in touch if you would like to discuss this further.

Sleeps Until Santa – with 'This is the Coast' radio station

The countdown to Christmas has begun! Later in the month, Paddy from 'This is the Coast' radio station will be visiting Sleights to record children sing "7 sleeps until Santa" to a new piece of music. To give your permission for your child to be on the recording, which will be played on the radio and shared on the station's social media page, please complete the form on ParentPay.

The Book Fair is coming!



We are looking forward to welcoming the Book Fair to school for a week from the 24th November. We hope that families will be able to come along and buy some books, or grab some Christmas presents. Every book bought provides school with a chance to buy some too! We will open the fair before and after school, to allow families to browse safely. We will also be holding a competition for classes to win vouchers to spend. More details to follow.

Times Tables, Times Tables, Times Tables!

This week, we launched our new approach to tackling times tables. This includes a very carefully mapped out plan to build mastery in a single times table over a term. The children also complete regular quizzes to help showcase their progress and skills. We look forward to this developing in the coming weeks.

During the summer term, the Year 4 children will take part in a Government led 'Multiplication Tables Check'. This will involve the children answering 25 times tables question on screen, with six seconds for each question. We are working hard on building children's confidence with this and would be grateful of this support at home too, please. The Government have produced an information booklet about the tables check. To find out more, please click the booklet front cover.



Sleights is a nut free and peanut free school.

Next week's menu

Week One

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Monday	Beef burger in a bun, chipped potatoes, peas and carrots, followed by sticky date and apple bar, with custard
Tuesday	Macaroni cheese, green beans and sweetcorn, followed by cheese and crackers
Wednesday	Roast chicken, sage and onion stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes and a medley of vegetables, followed by a raspberry yoghurt
Thursday	Mexican Tortilla boats and savoury rice, followed by a muffin
Friday	Breaded salmon, potato wedges, baked beans and peas, followed by chocolate banana sponge and chocolate sponge

The information below is unchanged from last week

Flu Immunisation Programme – reminder

The flu nasal spray will take place in school on **TUESDAY 30th NOVEMBER**. To give consent for your child's flu immunisation in school:

- Go to <https://www.hdft.nhs.uk/fluconsent/>
- Enter the School Code **121491** and click "**Find School**".
- **Complete the form** with your child's information and parent/guardian contact information*.

Click the **green "Submit" button**.

Applying for Reception Class (September 2022)

It has been great to hear about the applications being made for Reception (September 2022) The deadline for applying is 15th January 2022. If you would like to arrange a discussion with me or Mrs Hann, or Pioneers (Reception Class) teacher, or have a full school tour, please let me know.

All applications are made directly to North Yorkshire County Council, who provide school with a list of applicants in April. Families will receive their school offer on **19th April 2022**. To make your application, please log on at: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/apply-place-primary-or-secondary-school> where you will be asked to set up an account. We hope to see your applications soon. If you would like any help with this, please do let us know.

St. John's Church Children's Society Coffee Morning

Families are invited to a coffee morning at Church House on Saturday 27th November to raise funds with our friends at St. John's Church for the Children's Society. The event will take place between 10am and 12pm at Church House, at the top of Coach Road.

Toddler Group Support – Monday afternoon

A toddler group takes place at Church House, each Monday afternoon. We have been asked by our Church family to share that the group is now looking for a new leader. If you are interested, or know somebody who is, please do get in touch and I will pass your details on.